

ABSTRACT

A dispenser for liquid consumables locates a store of the particular liquid at a location remote from the dispensing location. The dispensing location is typically located above a counter and may include a relatively narrow stem that brings a flexible liquid delivery tube up to a valve. Valuable counter space is conserved. One or more disposable, flexible and collapsible bags contain the store of liquid and communicates with the dispensing location via the liquid delivery tube. Confined in contact with each flexible bag is an inflatable bladder to which compressed air is routed. Liquid is dispensed each time the valve opens. When exhausted the flexible bag is replaced. Safety interlock switches vent the inflatable bladder to prevent its expanding explosively upon opening of the location where the liquid containing bag will replace the empty. Where the liquid needs temperature control, temperature control means are provided where the liquid is stored. Air movement from that location into the stem to a dispensing fountainhead controls the temperature of the liquid in the delivery tube. In the dispensing of dairy product, as in cream for coffee, temperature control is refrigeration. The dairy product is cooled over its entire route from the flexible bag to the fountainhead. The location of the collapsible, flexible bag and expansible bladder may be directly below the stem and fountainhead in a cabinet, and the entire unit may be movable from one location to another. When consistency of liquid amount dispensed is needed, a dosing valve meters out a measured amount.